

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-6, 11-15, 17 and 18 are currently being cancelled.

Claim 7 is currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment and reply cancels and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After canceling and amending the claims as set forth above, claims 7-10 and 16 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claims 7-10 and 16, the only claims presently pending.

Objection to the Claims:

In the Office Action, claim 7 was objected to because “a synchronous” on line 2 of that claim allegedly should be changed to “asynchronous”. Applicant respectfully disagrees. In particular, please note, for example, Figure 3 of the drawings, and page 11, lines 22-28 of the specification, which specifies that the first and second terminals are communicatively connected to each other by synchronous lines 400, 500 and by an asynchronous line 300b. Accordingly, the recitation on line 2 of claim 2 is correct. Please also note the recitation of an asynchronous line later on in that claim. Please note the other minor amendments to claim 7 to correct minor grammatical issues in that claim (whereby the scope of that claim is unaffected).

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1-6 and 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,790,538 to Sugar in view of U.S. Patent No.

5,790,592 to Baik; and claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugar in view of Baik and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,628,664 to Guzikevits et al.. Due to the cancellation of claims 1-6, 11-15, 17 and 18, these rejections are now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date October 13, 2006

By Phillip J. Articola

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5407
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

David A. Blumenthal
Registration No. 26,257

Phillip J. Articola
Registration No. 38,819